#6/Election

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Welch, et al.

Serial No.: 09/491,900

Filed: January 27, 2000

Group Art Unit: 2814

Examiner: DiLinh Nguyen

Docket No. 10991989-1

For: A METHOD OF INTEGRATED CIRCUIT CONSTRUCTION WITH PORT ALIGNMENT AND TIMING SIGNAL BUFFERING WITHIN A

COMMON AREA

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The Office Action mailed April 6, 2001 (Paper No. 3) has been carefully considered. In response thereto, please consider the following remarks.

AUTHORIZATION TO DEBIT ACCOUNT

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to deposit account no. 50-1078.

C/msl